

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, GR

SUBJECT: ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE

1. FOLLOWING PARAS 2-5 ARE SUMMARY OF DUSKO DODER ARTICLE, ATTRIBUTING GROWING ANTI- AMERICANISM IN GREECE TO PRESENCE OF SIXTH FLEET, WHICH APPEARED IN WASHINGTON POST ON DEC 9. FULL TEXT APPEARS IN WIRELESS FILE.

PARA 6 IS DEPARTMENT PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED DEC 10 IN ANTICIPATION OF QUESTION RE ANTI-AMERICANISM. QUESTION NOT ASKED AND GUIDANCE NOT USED.

2. DODER STORY ALLEGES ANTI-AMERICANISM GROWING IN GREECE AMONG TRADITIONALLY PRO-AMERICAN QUARTERS DUE TO GROWING US MILITARY PRESENCE IN GREECE AND BELIEF THAT WASHINGTON EXERCISES "OVERWHELMING INFLUENCE" IN DOMESTIC GREEK POLITICAL LIFE. ANTI-AMERICANISM- INITIALLY PROMOTED BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GREEK LEFTISTS, SAID TO BE GROWING IN ANY CASE, BUT ACCELER-

ATED BY HOMEPORTING. PESMAZOGLOU, WHO "TYPIFIES TRADITIONALLY PRO-AMERICAN FORMER POLITICIANS" CRITICISED NEGOTIATION OF HOMEPORTING BY NON-REPRESENTATIVE GREEK GOVERNMENT.

3. DODER ARTICLE REPORTS IT "WIDELY ASSUMED" THAT UNITED STATES SPONSORED NOV 25 COUP BECAUSE PAPADOPOULOS GOVERNMENT WAS UNCOOPERATIVE DURING "YOM KIPPUR WAR".

4. STORY CLAIMS "RELOCATABLE PIER" AND OTHER UNSPECIFIED CONSTRUCTION AT ELEFSIS AMOUNT TO ESTABLISHMENT OF NAVAL BASE IN VIOLATION OF ADMIRAL ZUMWALT'S 1972 TESTIMONY TO HFAC. WITH REFERENCE TO ALLEGED INCREASES IN AMERICAN STYLE BARS AND PROSTITUTION IN ELEFSIS AND "INCIDENTS", "AVERAGE GREEK REMAINS CONVINCED THAT US SAILORS ARE A "LAWLESS RABBLE". RESENTMENT OF HOMEPORTING ALSO ATTRIBUTED TO WAIVER OF JURISDICTION PROVISIONS OF BILATERAL SOFA, PX AND COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES, AND INFLATION IN HOUSING PRICES.

5. ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH QUOTE FROM GREEK STUDENT, "PEOPLE WERE DYING AT POLYTECHNIC AND THE AMERICANS WERE SILENT. THERE IS A NEW MILITARY COUP AND THE AMERICANS ARE SILENT. WE CAN ONLY WONDER WHETHER THEY ARE FRIENDS."

6. QUESTION: WOULD YOU COMMENT ON RECENT REPORTS OF GROWING ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE?

ANSWER: WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A DEEP OR BROAD ANTI-AMERICAN BIAS IN GREECE. SUCH ANTI-AMERICANISM THAT EXISTS IN GREECE HAS ARISEN LARGELY FROM THE MISCONCEPTION OF SOME PEOPLE THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS SUPPORTED MILITARY GOVERNMENTS IN THAT COUNTRY. THIS IS, OF COURSE, NOT THE CASE. RUSH

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